

THE LAW OFFICES OF DOUGLAS THOMAS MOORE
Over 23 years serving the People of Hawai'i

Office Address:
Century Square
1188 Bishop Street, Suite 1401
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Telephone: (808) 526-0056
Fax: (808) 526-0057
Moore4640@hawaiiantel.net

February 3, 2012

VIA HAND DELIVERY

LATE

TO: House Labor Committee
Hon. Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair
Hon. Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair

Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2586
TO BE HEARD 2/3/2012 @ 9:00 a.m

Dear Rep. Rhoads and Committee Members:

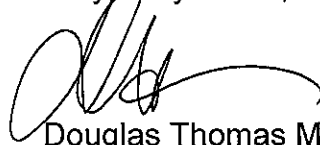
I support HB 2586 to allow the Disability Compensation Division to assess fees for issuing subpoenas and filing of first injury reports.

I support this measure because as a workers' compensation practitioner I have seen the very detrimental effect budget cutbacks have had on the operations of the DCD. Reduction in staffing has caused lengthy delays in processing claims, scheduling and conducting hearings, issuing decisions, and conducting overall operations. This often causes great delays in getting appropriate benefits to injured workers and to timely resolving disputes over providing appropriate benefits to injured workers. This hurts all parties to the system.

To help provide resources to the DCD to do a better job of cutting down delays and backlogs, including upkeep and upgrade of automation systems, this measure modestly assesses fees for issuing subpoenas and filing of first injury reports. No taxpayer money is requested. So long as indigent injured workers can get exempt from having to pay such fees, this measure to authorize modest fee assessment should not be onerous on the parties. Instead, the potential benefits should help with the timely rehabilitation of injured workers and return them to the workforce as soon as feasible and appropriate

Help all parties to the work comp system receive enhanced quality DCD services by supporting HB 2586. Please pass this bill. Thank you. Should you have any questions or need further information from me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very Truly Yours,



Douglas Thomas Moore